



## The Mound Site Plume

### AREA OF GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION



#### Project Description:

The Mound Plume is an area of shallow groundwater contamination that originated from the Mound, a former waste drum storage area used in the 1950s. The Mound Plume is primarily contaminated with volatile organic compounds. Following the excavation and removal of the contamination source at the Mound in 1997, a treatment system was installed in the Summer of 1998 to address the Mound Plume. This innovative system uses no moving parts and relies on interaction between the contaminants and iron filings to cleanse the water. The Mound Plume was ranked 7th on the top-10 risk list for Rocky Flats environmental contamination sites. Funding for the Mound Plume Project was provided by the Department of Energy Office of Science and Technology. Operation of the plume treatment system will be monitored through the Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation (SITE) program through 1999.

#### Project Scope:

- Extent of plume is approximately 220 feet wide; groundwater plume flow is  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  gallons per minute

#### Cleanup Method:

- Installation of a passive treatment system that uses iron filings to cleanse contaminants from the groundwater

#### Contaminants of Concern:

- Carbon tetrachloride
- Tetrachloroethene
- Trichloroethene
- Vinyl Chloride
- Small amounts of uranium

#### History:

- The Mound Plume resulted from the Mound Site which was used from 1954-1958 to store 1,400 drums containing waste products contaminated with plutonium and uranium
- In 1970, all of the drums were removed along with most of the radioactively contaminated soils and in April 1997, all of the chemically contaminated soils were removed
- In 1995, the water from seep SW059 was collected, pumped to a nearby tank, and then trucked to the Consolidated Water Treatment Facility for treatment

#### Schedule:

Start: Installed July 1998

Finish: Ongoing treatment



U.S. Department of Energy

**Make It Safe. Clean It Up. Close It Down.**



*For further information about Rocky Flats*

Contact DOE Communication at (303) 966-5993, or Kaiser-Hill Communication at (303) 966-2882, or toll free at (800) 269-0157  
(press \*82882# when you hear the automated attendant)

Also, additional information about Rocky Flats is available on the internet at: <http://www.rfets.gov>